

that judges and juries ought not to be subjected to threats or intimidation campaigns.

Admirably, some on the political left have spoken out against this fringe element. The Washington Post editorial board has condemned this. The No. 2 Senate Democrat, our colleague from Illinois, said:

I think it's reprehensible. Stay away from homes and families.

His counterpart across the Capitol, the No. 2 House Democrat, Leader HOYER, said:

We need to protect Supreme Court Justices and their families, period. We're a nation of laws, not of violence, not of intimidation . . . laws.

That was STENY HOYER.

But Leader SCHUMER and the White House will not follow suit. They won't condemn the harassment. They have basically endorsed it. And top Democrats are standing in the way of concrete action.

A few days ago, the Senate unanimously passed legislation to give the Supreme Court's in-house police force some additional authorities they need to do their jobs. This isn't controversial stuff. It cleared this Chamber unanimously. But House Democrats have been unwilling to promptly pass it.

Congressman JEFFRIES suggested yesterday this uncontroversial bill might be shunted into a lengthy committee process. Why in the world would that be done? These are essentially clerical fixes. They breezed through the Senate without objection. But House Democratic leadership wants to drag this out with hearings and markups, while mobs assemble at people's houses?

I hope this is some misunderstanding. I hope Democrats are not intentionally stalling these security measures until after the Court has issued its rulings. This would be reprehensible.

At the end of Pennsylvania Avenue, either President Biden or Attorney General Garland has apparently decided not to enforce Federal law. Like I explained on Monday, section 1507 of the Criminal Code makes it a crime right now to picket or parade with the intent of influencing a judge at locations that include a judge's residence. That is the law right now. People have been doing exactly that for days and days right now. But the Garland Justice Department is nowhere in sight.

One would think a DOJ, run by the former chief judge of the DC Circuit, would need no prodding—no prodding—to protect judicial safety and judicial independence. But at least so far, the Attorney General was quicker to pounce on concerned parents at school board meetings.

The Governors of Maryland and Virginia have had to write a joint letter to the Attorney General begging him to make his U.S. attorneys do their job and uphold the law.

So, yesterday, I sent the DOJ my own letter asking the very same question.

The Senate needs answers right now, and the Court needs security right now.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Madam President, on a related matter, yesterday, we observed the beginning of ceremonies honoring National Police Week. Soon we will mark Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Tens of thousands of law enforcement personnel from across the country will gather here in our Nation's Capital to honor the service and the sacrifice of their fallen brothers and sisters.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Kentuckians who have traveled here for the ceremonies. I am meeting with several of these law enforcement leaders this week to express my gratitude for their service.

The Commonwealth is home to every type of law enforcement officer you can imagine, from big city beat cops to smalltown sheriffs. They take a great risk every day to protect and to serve.

This week, I am thinking especially about the law enforcement officers Kentucky lost in the past year whose names will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial tomorrow—heroes like Graves County jailer Robert T. Daniel, who sacrificed his own life to save endangered inmates as a tornado bore down on their workplace in which he was employed; community pillars like Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff Brandon Shirley, who was shot and killed while working a second job in his uniform; role models like Louisville Police Officer Zachary Cottongim, who was struck and killed by a car while attending to an abandoned vehicle on the side of the road.

Yesterday, I met with Officer Cottongim's widow and former partner who are here in Washington for tomorrow's memorial. We are all praying for them as they mourn this tragic loss.

I am proud to cosponsor the resolution that officially designated National Police Week this year. America's law enforcement personnel are always there when we need them most. The least—the least—Congress can do is have their backs.

INFLATION

Madam President, now on one final matter, parents across the country are struggling to get their hands on the infant formula their babies need. Here are just a few of the letters I have received from parents and grandparents in my State:

We have been struggling to get formula for our granddaughter for months now. The situation has turned dire.

My 6-month-old Ezekiel has had to switch what he needs twice since his birth due to the shortages.

Another:

We traveled from Lexington, Kentucky through West Virginia and Virginia into Washington D.C. [but] every place we stopped . . . had empty shelves of baby formula.

This outrageous, unacceptable situation has been unfolding in slow motion

over several months. Much of it stems from a recall that resulted in a plant being shut down. But it seems that while President Biden's administration and the FDA knew all about this problem as it developed, they have been asleep at the switch in terms of getting production back online as fast as possible.

Both Republican and Democratic Senators have asked the White House and FDA for answers and gotten very few. The administration has got to be more proactive and forward-leaning. But yesterday, I understand that a White House spokeswoman wasn't even sure if they had a point person for this problem or, if they had such a person, who it might be.

Even before the acute shortages, soaring costs were also squeezing families. The inflation figures show the price of baby food has skyrocketed 13 percent in just 12 months. Overall food inflation is 9.4 percent year-over-year. That is the worst year for food inflation in 41 years.

It should not be this hard for Americans to feed their families. Parents need President Biden and his team to step up to the plate.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, 1 million deaths—unbelievable. But this week, it became very, very real. One million of our fellow Americans now have died from COVID, 1 million parents, grandparents, siblings, children, friends, neighbors. That is more Americans who lost their lives than the casualties in World War I, World War II, or the Civil War. That is the size of San Jose, CA, the 10th largest city in our Nation.

But behind those 7 stark figures are real people, including more than 33,600 in my home State of Illinois. One of those was a woman named Maria Elena Sifuentes. Maria lived in Chicago, where she worked at Communities United and organized for housing and education equity in her community. She had received her first COVID shot when she contracted the virus last summer. She passed away on June 10 at the age of 57 and left behind five children.

We also grieve the loss of Sergeant Ken Thurman and Officer Brian Shields, two 51-year-old veteran police officers who worked in Aurora at the police department. They succumbed to COVID infections last year, both within the same week.

When the pandemic first hit, this degree of loss was unimaginable. Some people dismissed COVID-19 and said that it was just like the ordinary flu